

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

IO-10 OMB-01 /070 W

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R 190851Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8425

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS KS

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO USG STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF PRISONERS

REF: SEOUL 1030

1. FEB 19 PRESS CARRIED DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
SPOKESMAN'S COMMENT WELCOMING ROKG'S RELEASE OF  
EMERGENCY MEASURES PRISONERS ALONG WITH ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS BY  
CONGRESSMEN FRASER AND WOLFF.

2. MOST PRESS REACTION WAS FAVORABLE TO DEPARTMENT  
AND CONGRESSIONAL COMMENT. SEOUL SINMUN NOTED THAT IT  
WAS FIRST TIME STATE DEPARTMENT HAD COMMENTED ON KOREAN  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS SINCE ONSET OF REFERENDUM ACTIVITIES.  
CHUNGANG ILBO REPORTED, HOWEVER, THAT ACCORDING TO A  
STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCE, SPOKESMAN'S USE OF WORD  
"NATURALLY" IN WELCOMING ROKG'S RELEASE OF PRISONERS  
INDICATED THAT USG STILL HAD SOME RESERVATIONS CONCERNING  
PRISONER RELEASE AND WAS WAITING FOR A "LITTLE  
MORE ACTION" ON ROKG'S PART. FURTHERMORE, USG WAS  
PROBABLY WAITING TO SEE WHAT CONDITIONS WERE ATTACHED  
TO ROKG ACTION.

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3. BOTH NEWSPAPERS AS WELL AS TONGA ILBO REPORTED  
CONGRESSMAN FRASER'S STATEMENT THAT ROKG'S ACTION WAS  
ENCOURAGING MOVE TOWARD RESTORATION OF POLITICAL FREEDOM  
IN COUNTRY. FRASER WAS ALSO QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THIS  
WAS BEGINNING OF IMPROVEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM AND  
THAT NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS WILL BE SIGNIFICANT IN  
KOREAN AFFAIRS. CHUNGANG ILBO ALSO QUOTED BALTIMORE SUN  
STORY THAT RELEASE OF PRISONERS WOULD NOT LIKELY COOL OFF  
ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT HELP PRISIDENT  
PARK'S OVERSEAS IMAGE.  
SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SEOUL01046  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750058-1086  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 SEOUL 1030  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Subject:** PRESS REACTION TO USG STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF PRISONERS  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, KS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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